REMARKS

Objection to the Drawing

In the Office Action dated July 5, 2007, the single figure in the drawings of this application was objected to as not showing the claimed "electrical power equipment" or "Ethernet communication port." Submitted herewith is an amended drawing that includes the "power distribution equipment," which is supported by the present application at page 2, lines 16-18, and the many references to "power monitoring equipment" throughout the specification and the original claims. With respect to the claimed "Ethernet communication ports," it is respectfully submitted that these ports were shown in the original drawing. The front (externally) accessible Ethernet port is identified by the reference number 14 in the original drawings, and the internally accessible Ethernet port is identified by the dashed line 16 in the original drawing, which is referred to in the specification as an Ethernet cable and is shown in the original drawing as extending through the wall of the enclosure 15 to the Ethernet hub 12 located inside the enclosure.

Rejection Based on 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-9 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) on the basis of Staber, which is a newly cited reference. The Staber reference does not relate to electrical power equipment, but rather to telephone equipment – specifically, "an indoor xDSL assembly with an existing xDSL splitter circuit that is interconnectable with existing indoor telephone installations." Applicants' original claims 1-9 and 12 were specifically directed to electrical **power** equipment, and have now been amended to even more specifically require electrical power "monitoring or metering" equipment. Thus, the Staber reference clearly does not meet the language of either independent claim 1 or 12. Indeed, in the rejection of dependent claims 10-11 and 14-18 based on a combination of Staber with a second reference, the Office Action acknowledges that Staber fails to disclose "power monitoring equipment," as follows:

> Staber discloses the claimed invention except the electrical equipment being a power monitoring equipment and having Ethernet communication port being an infrared wireless port.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 12, particularly as now amended, are clearly not anticipated by Staber and should be allowed.

Rejection Based on 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 10-11 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) on the basis of a combination of Staber and literature relating to applicants' assignee's own "PowerLogic" 2000 product ("the 'PowerLogic' literature"). The Office Action acknowledges that Staber "discloses the claimed invention except the electrical equipment being a power monitoring equipment and having Ethernet communication port being an infrared wireless port," but alleges that the "PowerLogic" literature discloses "an optical communications port and being built into the front panel as listed on page 1 and stated in section Optical Communications Interface on page 5." The actual language on page 5 of the "PowerLogic" literature is as follows:

> The circuit monitor has an optical communications port built into the front panel as a standard feature. Using this port, a portable computer with an optical communications interface (OCI-2000) can retrieve data from the circuit monitor. The OCI-2000 mounts magnetically to the circuit monitor and provides a standard RS-232 interface. This interface can be used by engineers and maintenance personnel to retrieve captured waveforms, event and data logs, and other information without connecting to the network.

The fact is that the "PowerLogic" literature does not disclose any Ethernet port that is externally accessible after the power monitor has been installed. Thus, the "PowerLogic" literature does not disclose what claims 10-11 and 14-18 specifically require, which is an Ethernet port that is accessible after the power monitor is installed. The port described in the above quotation is simply an RS-232 interface for use in serial transfer of data from that specific power monitor to a portable device such as a PC. It is definitely not an Ethernet port that permits direct connection to an Ethernet so that the circuit monitor becomes part of a network through which the monitor can automatically interact with a multitude of other network devices.

Thus, even if it were proper to combine Staber and the "PowerLogic" literature, the resulting combination still would not satisfy the requirements of the present claims. Claim 1 (from which claims 10-11 and 16-17 depend) specifically requires a pair of **Ethernet** ports, as follows:

> a pair of Ethernet communication ports mounted to said enclosure and operatively coupled with said electrical power monitoring or metering

> equipment for connecting said electrical power monitoring or metering equipment with equipment outside of said enclosure, . . . the other of said ports being accessible from outside said enclosure when said enclosure is installed to enable coupling of said power monitoring or metering equipment inside said enclosure to an Ethernet outside said enclosure.

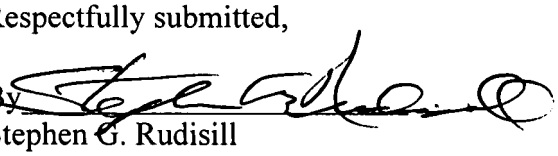
Similarly, claim 12 (from which claims 14-15 and 18 depend) requires:

> a pair of Ethernet communications ports mounted to said enclosure and operatively coupled with said electrical power monitoring or metering equipment, one of said ports being inaccessible from outside said enclosure when said enclosure is installed, the other of said ports being accessible from outside said enclosure when said enclosure is installed to enable coupling of said power monitoring or metering equipment inside said enclosure to an Ethernet outside said enclosure.

Thus, both the independent claims require that both the internally accessible and the externally accessible ports be Ethernet ports, and the external port described in the "PowerLogic" literature is NOT an Ethernet port and, therefore, cannot be used to connect the circuit monitor with other network devices.

Dated: August 9, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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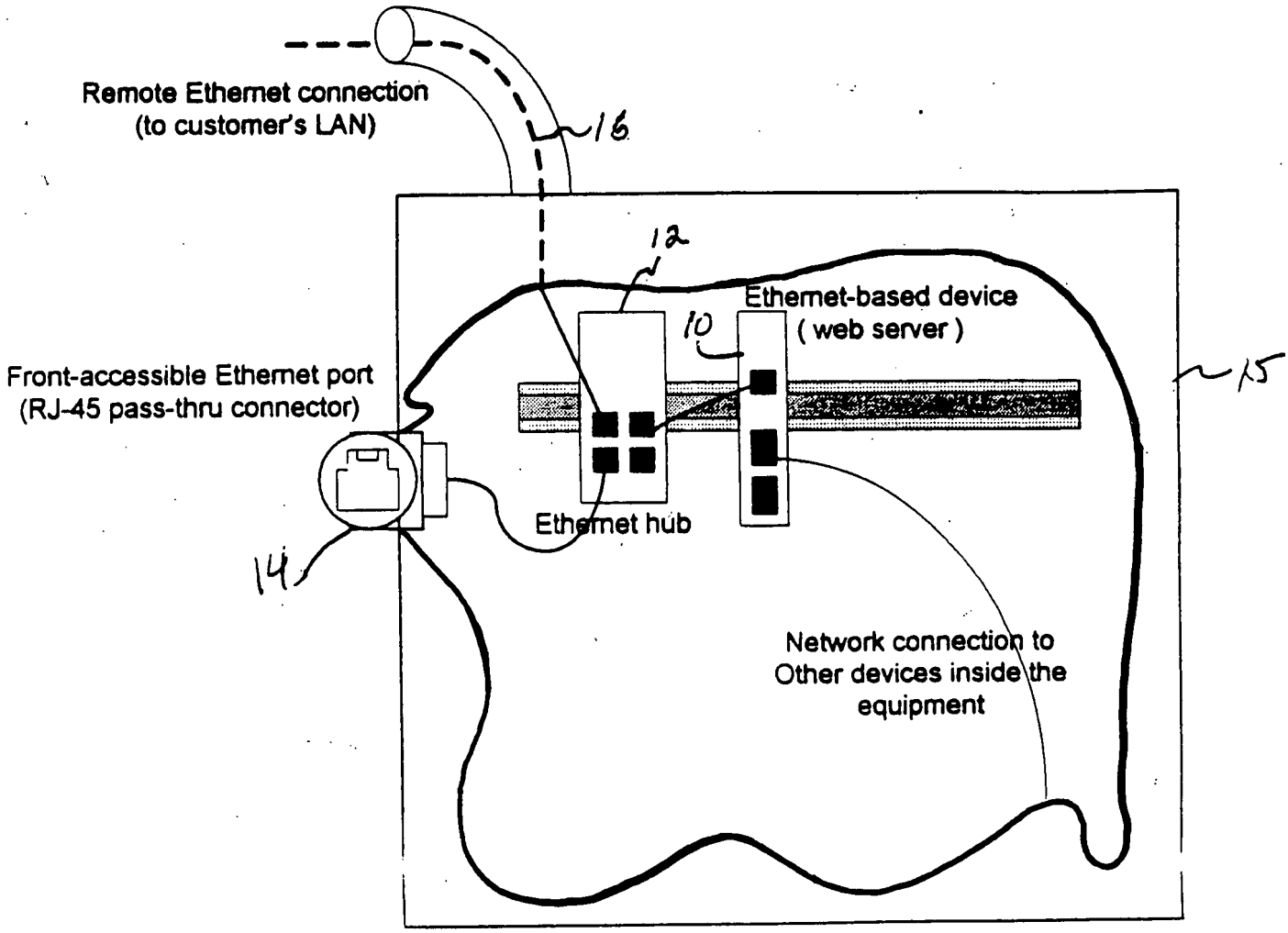
Remote Ethernet connection
(to customer's LAN)
16
12
Ethernet-based device
(web server)
10
15
Front-accessible Ethernet port
(RJ-45 pass-thru connector)
Ethernet hub
14
Network connection to
Other devices inside the
equipment